

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3063
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 2917

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, YO
SUBJ: VISIT OF YUGOSLAV MAYORS

REF: STATE 118380

1. TRANSMITTED HEREWITH IS BIOGRAPHIC AND PROGRAM INFO ON
MAYOR OF LJUBLJANA, TONE KOVIC:

2. BORN: SEPT 17, 1931, LJUBLJANA

3. EDUCATION: GRADUATE IN ENGINEERING (METALLURGICAL), U.
OF LJUBLJANA.

4. PRESENT POSITION: PRESIDENT OF THE LJUBLJANA CITY ASSEMBLY,
SINCE SEPT 20, 1973.

5. PAST POSITIONS: DEPUTY IN CITY ASSEMBLY; PRESIDENT, ASSEMBLY
COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL CONTROL; PRESIDENT OF THE SAWP (SOCIALIST
ALLIANCE OF WORKING PEOPLE) FOR THE COMMUNE OF LJUBLJANA-SISKA.
WORKED FOR LITOSTROJ, LJUBLJANA-BASED FIRM PRODUCING ELECTRICAL
MACHINERY, FROM 1960 TO 1973. WAS DIRECTOR OF FOUNDRY DIVISION
OF FIRM.

6. MARITAL STATUS: MARRIED, NO CHILDREN.

7. HOME ADDRESS: CELOVSKA 143, LJUBLJANA; PHONE (061) 55-882.

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MESSAGES SHOULD, HOWEVER, BE SENT THROUGH CITY ASSEMBLY.

8. PREVIOUS TRAVEL: WIDELY IN EUROPE; SOMEWHAT IN ASIA. VISITED US IN 1972 TO ATTEND WORLD FOUNDRY CONGRESS IN PHILADELPHIA. (ALSO VISITED NEW YORK AND MIAMI DURING THAT TRIP.)

9. LANGUAGES: SERBO-CROATIAN AND SLOVENIAN; SOME GERMAN AND RUSSIAN; UNDERSTANDS SOME ENGLISH BUT DOES NOT SPEAK IT.

10. PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES ON METALLURGY AND FOUNDRY WORK FOR YUGOSLAV PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS.

11. GENERAL INTERESTS: KOVIC REGARDS VISIT AS OPPORTUNITY TRANSACT BUSINESS ON BEHALF OF LJUBLJANA AND STUDY US URBAN PLANNING, ESPECIALLY HANDLING OF TRAFFIC PROBLEMS. (LJUBLJANA APPARENTLY CONSIDERING CONSTRUCTION OF A BELT-WAY). ALSO INTERESTED IN PRE-SCHOOL CHILD CARE CENTERS. AS METALLURGIST, WISHES VISIT ONE OR MORE MODERN US FOUNDRY OPERATIONS.

12. SPECIFIC PLACES TO VISIT, MORE OR LESS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY:

- A) CLEVELAND, OHIO (TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE SISTER-CITY CONNECTION).
- B) KANSAS CITY, KANSAS (ANOTHER SISTER-CITY) GROUP FROM KANSAS CITY EXPECTED VISIT LJUBLJANA THIS FALL).
- C) GRAND RAPIDS, MICH (TO SEE PRESIDENT'S HOME TOWN; RETURN VISIT TO MAYOR PARKS; EXAMINE JOINT URBAN STUDIES PROGRAM BETWEEN LJUBLJANA AND GRAND RAPIDS).
- D) SINCE KOVIC HAS NEVER SEEN WEST COAST, WISHES VISIT SAN FRANCISCO (TO RENEW ACQUAINTANCE WITH MAYOR ALIOTO WHOM HE MET AT CONFERENCE IN TEHERAN); GENERAL SIGHT-SEEING.
- E) WEST FRANKFORT, ILL (TO VISIT PATERNAL UNCLE, MR. TONE KOVIC. MAYOR SAYS WOULD ARRANGE CONTACT HIS RELATIVES HIMSELF ONCE HIS SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED).
- F) MAY HAVE FURTHER SUGGESTIONS IN EVENT SLOVENIAN VICE PRESIDENT DRAGAN, NOW IN US ON PARTIAL IV, RETURNS WITH CONTACTS WHICH KOVIC MAY WISH TO FOLLOW UP.

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